

SUBJECT: Abduction of Wolfgang HOEHER

1. On Tuesday 17 February 1953 at 1400 hrs. a meeting was held in the office of Mr. Stelt of Public Safety HICOG. At the meeting were Stelt, Herr Kleyer German Chief of Criminal Police American Sector and Herr Heindke from GCIS 60 Schloß Str. Herr Heindke gave the following report on the HOEHER case.

2. Herr Heinke said that he had known HOEHER and his wife since 1951. He had met HOEHER on official business and HOEHER lived at 5 Adabliertstrasse Bln/Kreuzberg and was a FDP representative in the Kreuzberg District Assembly. HOEHER was employed by a West German Counter Intelligence Group called Geel. HOEHER was a former Berlin Police Major until 1945. He was arrested by the Soviets in 1945 at Halle and sent to Russia where he worked in a plant that made parts for V-Bombs. Later he was sent to the Antifa School in Moscow. He returned to West Berlin in 1949 and contacted group Geel and has worked for it since that time. Heindke said that on Saturday morning 14 February 1953, at 0900 hrs. he received a call from Frau Katharina HOEHER who told him that her husband had been missing since last night at 1800 hrs. Heindke told her to wait 24 hours and if he does not show up to report the matter to her local police. On 15 February 1953, Heindke went to see Frau HOEHER at her home. He asked her if she had reported her husband's disappearance to the police, she said she had not as she was to wait for word from West Germany. Frau HOEHER reported her husband's disappearance to the police at Revier 107 Bln/Kreuzberg in the evening of 15 February 1953.

3. The following is a copy of the telegram that was sent out by the West Berlin Police. Missing since 13 February 1953, Wolfgang HOEHER, born 15 February 1914 in Magdeburg, 1,84 CM tall, blond hair, blue eyes and of stout build. Last seen wearing a gray leather coat, gray hat, brown pants, light sport jacket and brown shoes and carrying a light brown brief case. Last seen at Wittenbergplatz Berlin.

4. At 1500 hrs. 17 February 1953, one Herr ULBRICHT, came to the office of Mr. Stelt. ULBRICHT stated that he represented a German Organization from Bonn, and that he had just come from a meeting with three German men, who had come to Berlin by military aircraft Monday night 16 February 1953. These three men had come to investigate the abduction of HOEHER. They had requested that ULBRICHT come to Stelt and ask him to transfer the investigation of the case from Abteilung V to GCIS American Sector.

ULBRICHT also gave Mr. Stelt the number IVC-817 and said it was HOEHER's emergency number.

5. Mr. Stelt said he first met ULBRICHT through DAD about five months ago. (I am checking this out with Ben).

6. The following information I received from my German Contact. HOEHER had been working with one Horst KIRVES from Bln/Weissensee (East Berlin) for the past two years. On Friday night 13 February 1953, HOEHER went with KIRVES to a cafe on Wittenbergplatz where they had quite a lot to drink. HOEHER became drunk and KIRVES told some people at the cafe that he would take HOEHER home. Since this time HOEHER and KIRVES have not been seen in West Berlin.